

I would also like to thank Chairman ED ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL, both of whom are original cosponsors, for scheduling this bill for markup so soon after introduction.

A sense of urgency with regard to the DR Congo is not misplaced.

As many of you know, the DRC is a strategically-located, resource-rich country which, unfortunately, has been misgoverned for most of its history.

H.R. 6207 supports the humanitarian and accountability efforts of civil society groups pushing back against civil strife and political repression. In particular, it acknowledges the role of the faith community and the Catholic Church, which educates and heals the Congolese people through its schools and hospitals while upholding the need for the rule of law and respect for constitutional principles in the DRC.

H.R. 6207 also supports a free and fair electoral process in the DRC which is long overdue. It is in our national security interest to support the Congolese people's call for democracy and accountability. Plus it is the right thing to do.

Notably, H.R. 6207 puts human rights violators and corrupt actors in the Democratic Republic of Congo under notice, codifying existing tools that allow us to sanction bad actors.

I urge my colleagues to join us by cosponsoring H.R. 6207.

I am also proud to be a sponsor of H.R. 1697, the Israel Anti-Boycott Act.

This Act will help protect Israel from unfair and punitive boycott efforts fomented by biased international organizations.

I commend my good friends PETER ROSKAM, JUAN VARGAS, and LEE ZELDIN for introducing this critical bipartisan measure to protect Israeli and American sovereignty and economic interests. I would also like to recognize our Chairman ED ROYCE's work to amend this bill to bring it to a full committee vote.

The notoriously anti-Israel agenda of the UN Human Rights Council in recent years has developed into a dangerous assault on Israel's economy. Pursuant to a March 2016 UNHRC resolution decrying businesses that operate beyond Israel's 1949 Armistice lines, the Human Rights Council in recent years has carried out an insidious blacklisting effort that is tantamount to economic warfare against the State of Israel.

Earlier this year the Council announced that it had compiled a list of 206 companies that it believed ought to be boycotted because they operate outside Israel's old boundaries. Of these 206 UN-blacklisted companies, 143 are based in Israel and 22 in the United States. Clearly it is right to protect these companies from damaging boycotts and to stand by our stalwart ally, Israel, the only democratic country in the region.

This legislation directs the President to amend U.S. commerce and foreign trade laws to prohibit American companies from knowingly complying with boycotts targeted at American allies. I urge my colleagues to support this measure to deliver badly-needed protection to American and Israeli companies whose legitimate business should not be manipulated to serve a hateful, anti-Israel political agenda.

I further urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5898, the UNRWA Accountability Act, another bipartisan measure introduced by DAVID CICILLINE and LEE ZELDIN.

For years the United States has been the world's largest donor to an organization that amplifies a Palestinian curriculum which propagates anti-Israel and anti-Semitic animus while entrenching conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. By conferring refugee status to successive generations of displaced Palestinians, UNRWA contributes to a ballooning population of aggrieved people who in turn are manipulated by those seeking to maintain pressure upon Israel.

United States aid to UNRWA must conform to United States' interests in securing true peace for Israel and the Palestinian people. This means applying real oversight and scrutiny to UNRWA's policies. It also means identifying alternatives to UNRWA if its mandate is at odds with our interests. This legislation requires a report that will help Congress conduct this critical oversight. This bill has my full support.

I would like to thank Representative NORMA TORRES for introducing H. Res. 944. This is a simple, compassionate resolution that expresses solidarity for the people of Guatemala who lost their loved ones and their homes to the terrible volcanic eruption of Mount Fuego on the third of June.

I am proud to be the lead Republican cosponsor of this resolution, for which Ms. TORRES, along with her staffer Clay Boggs, deserve the credit.

I also want to note as an aside, that Congresswoman TORRES and I have at times found ourselves on different sides of policy debates, including toward Guatemala.

What is important, however, is that when disaster strikes, we put aside our differences and unite in solidarity with those who suffer. Indeed, we have received thanks from people in Guatemala, and I am sure Ms. TORRES has as well, who note with appreciation this bipartisan coming together to support the Guatemalan people.

I urge my colleagues, Republican and Democrat, to join us.

RECOGNIZING THE MONTANA OUTFITTERS AND GUIDES ASSOCIATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association. The organization started Big Hearts Under the Big Sky, a program providing guided and outfitted trips at no charge to recipients. The recipients include breast cancer patients and survivors, children with serious illnesses, and veterans.

The association identifies families and matches their recreation wishes with member organizations. Recipients get to experience Montana's breath-taking scenery in backcountry outings. Some choose to fly fish the Yellowstone River, while others hunt trophy elk, moose, and other big game.

Celebrating its tenth year, Big Hearts Under the Big Sky is a testament to the restorative power of Montana's outdoors, to the hard work of Montana's more than 200 licensed outfitters and guides, and to the selflessness of the volunteers and sponsors who make this program possible.

For opening Montana's outdoor treasures to those who need it most, I recognize the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association for embodying the spirit of Montana.

CONGRATULATING MASTER TROOPER JAMES TOON ON BEING PRESENTED THE PUBLIC SAFETY VALOR AWARD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Trooper James Toon for receiving the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce's Public Safety Valor Award.

A native of Whiteville, North Carolina, Master Trooper Toon moved to Fayetteville in 1989 where he was stationed at Fort Bragg while serving in the Army. After serving our country as a Demolition Sergeant, Master Trooper Toon joined the Fayetteville Police Department for three years before joining the North Carolina State Highway Patrol where he has served faithfully ever since.

While Master Trooper Toon was off-duty traveling to downtown Fayetteville, he came across a car on fire. After pulling over to investigate, he noticed individuals trapped inside the burning vehicle. He was able to free one woman from the car, and because of his heroism, she made a full recovery. I want to thank Master Trooper Toon for his courage and valor in this heroic act.

Master Trooper Toon is married to his wife Kimberly, and they have two wonderful children. I am extremely grateful for Master Trooper Toon's service to our community and I wish him continued success. The Valor Award is presented to those who execute extreme acts of heroism in order to save the lives of others in our community, and I can think of no more deserving recipient than Master Trooper Toon.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Master Trooper James Toon on receiving the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce's Public Safety Valor Award.

CHILDREN ON THE BORDER

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD this article by Ms. Phyllis Beren concerning children separated from their parents at the southern border.

CHILDREN ON THE BORDER

(By Phyllis Beren)

As I thought about the honor of separating young children from their families at the U.S. border, what came to mind was the London bombings during World War II, when many children were evacuated to the country to stay with foster families. I recalled the war nurseries of the Hampstead Clinic in London and the work of Anna Freud and Dorothy Burlingham, who ran these nurseries and observed the children who were separated from their mothers during the war. One of their observations that has

stayed with me for more than forty years of practice as a psychoanalyst and child therapist was the traumatic effect of separation from their mothers. "The war acquires comparatively little significance for children so long as it only threatens their lives, disturbs their material comfort or cuts their food rations. It becomes enormously significant the moment it breaks up family ties and uproots the first emotional attachments of the child within the family group. London children, therefore, were on the whole much less upset by bombing than by evacuation to the country as a protection against it." (p. 37 War and Children, by Anna Freud and Dorothy T. Burlingham)

I don't believe it is an exaggeration to say that our country is now engaged in a war—a war to overthrow our democracy, a war on our constitution and legal system, a war on our principles, and a war on being human. Usually the first to suffer are the most vulnerable and defenseless, as we are now witnessing in the treatment of young children at our border. We are giving no thought to the child abuse we are inflicting on these children—in fact, we are doing the opposite; we are turning a blind eye, which is the main characteristic of child abuse. Child abuse takes many forms, not only visible, external bruises. The wrenching separation that these young children are experiencing every minute they are apart from their families is a trauma inflicted that will remain an open wound. Daily, we are reading about the visible distress these children show—terror, severe separation anxiety, sleeplessness, nightmares, crying, begging for their parents.

Why is zero tolerance an acceptable policy? "Zero tolerance" implies a police state where torture or murder is necessary if one crosses the border illegally. Zero tolerance gives permission to commit child abuse by separating the children from their parents. All child experts agree that such separation is a form of child abuse that can leave the children with permanent mental and physical damage. Separation of children from parents is child abuse; it is not an attempt to enforce the law, but rather an attempt to terrorize the parents by threatening them with the permanent loss of their children. Families with children can be detained together if necessary, without resorting to abuse by separating children from their parents, destroying the family bond, and inflicting severe and often irreversible mental and physical harm on the children.

As a child, I had the good fortune to survive World War II with my parents by my side. We were together in a displaced persons camp in Germany in the American section from 1946 to 1952 before immigrating to the United States. The United States Army, our heroes, who oversaw the camp provided a safe community for the refugees. There is no comparison between my childhood in the DP camp and the children separated from their families at our border. Today, I no longer recognize the country we live in.

We adult citizens of this country and our elected representatives know of this abuse, and we are nevertheless allowing it to continue, which makes all of us complicit.

TRIBUTE TO KATELYN THOMPSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Katelyn Thompson, from Guthrie County Hospital in Guthrie Center, Iowa. Ms. Thomp-

son was awarded the 2018 DAISY Award For Extraordinary Nurses at a ceremony on May 10, 2018.

This award is part of the DAISY Foundation's program to recognize the superhuman efforts nurses perform every day. Katelyn was nominated by patients, families, and colleagues because of her willingness to give her best efforts for the patients at GCH.

I applaud and congratulate Katelyn for her award and for providing excellent patient care in Iowa's Third District. I am proud to represent her and all the employees of the Guthrie County Hospital in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in congratulating Katelyn Thompson and wishing her well and continued success in the future.

THE BANKSTON FORK BAPTIST CHURCH'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the bicentennial anniversary of the Bankston Fork Baptist Church in Harrisburg, Illinois. The church was founded in 1818 by Wilson Henderson and Chester Carpenter.

The Bankston Fork Baptist Church has existed as a religious body for 200 years and has continuously given back to the community. After the church opened, they immediately started to spread their message of love, friendship and equality throughout the area. Bankston Fork Baptist Church is one of the oldest churches in Illinois and the church has occupied five different buildings in four different locations during its tenure.

I offer my congratulations to the members of Bankston Fork Baptist Church on their bicentennial anniversary. I wish them many more prosperous years in the future.

COMMEMORATING OLYMPIA MIDDLE SCHOOL ON RECEIVING THE SCHOOL TO WATCH RECOGNITION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize Olympia Middle School as a 2018 winner of the Schools to Watch initiative. This recognition is a testament to the hard work both the faculty and students have put into another successful year.

The Schools to Watch program was developed in 1999 by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform as a way to highlight schools across the country that meet a high standard for educational excellence. The initiative chooses schools based on a holistic evaluation of academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, and social equity, all within a strong organizational support structure.

I was not surprised to hear that Olympia Middle School was selected for this honor because I know the level of hard work and dedication the staff, administration, and students all exhibit. Congratulations to Olympia Middle

School. I am proud to represent this shining example of educational excellence.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment Home Rule Act. This bill would give the District the authority to appoint all members of the D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment (Board), except when the Board is performing functions regarding an application by a foreign mission with respect to a chancery. The Board issues special exceptions, or variances, to the regulations issued by the D.C. Zoning Commission (Commission). This bill does not alter the authority of the Board.

Like every other jurisdiction in the United States, the District should be free to set its own local land-use policies. As the District continues to contend with rapid population growth and economic development, it is more important than ever that the members of the Board are accountable to District residents and local elected officials.

Under current law, in general, the Board consists of a representative each from the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) and the Commission, each of whom may be a federal official, and three mayoral appointees, subject to D.C. Council approval. The Board has no authority over federal property.

Under current law, when the Board is performing functions regarding an application by a foreign mission with respect to the location, expansion or replacement of a chancery, the Board consists of the Executive Director of NCPC; the Director of the National Park Service, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, or the Administrator of General Services, as designated by the President; and the three mayoral appointees. This bill does not change this composition.

This is an important step to recognize and increase home rule for the District, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING LUKE COHEN

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Luke Cohen on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah, and for his dedication to public service. Recent events in our nation have highlighted the social and political divide that we all must work to bridge. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the powerful words of Mr. Cohen, delivered on the day of his Bar Mitzvah.

Mr. Speaker, while this speech encourages us all to fight for equality and protection under the law, it also reminds us that we must work to improve our society for our children and grandchildren.